

House Study Bill 170 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
STATE GOVERNMENT BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON COWNIE)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to preservation of tally lists after an
2 election.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 50.19, Code 2011, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **50.19 Preservation and destruction of books.**

4 1. The commissioner may destroy precinct election
5 registers, the declarations of eligibility signed by voters,
6 tally lists, and other material pertaining to any election in
7 which federal offices are not on the ballot, except the ~~tally~~
8 ~~lists~~ and abstracts of votes which have not been electronically
9 recorded, six months after the election if a contest is not
10 pending. If a contest is pending, all election materials
11 shall be preserved until final determination of the contest.
12 Before destroying the election registers and declarations
13 of eligibility, the commissioner shall prepare records as
14 necessary to permit compliance with chapter 48A, subchapter V.
15 Nomination papers for primary election candidates for state and
16 county offices shall be destroyed ten days before the general
17 election, if a contest is not pending.

18 2. Material pertaining to elections for federal offices,
19 including ballots, precinct election registers, declarations
20 of eligibility signed by voters, tally lists, documents
21 relating to absentee ballots, and challenges of voters, shall
22 be preserved for twenty-two months after the election. If a
23 contest is not pending the materials may be destroyed at the
24 end of the retention period.

25 EXPLANATION

26 This bill provides that tally lists prepared for an election
27 be preserved for 22 months after an election for federal office
28 and for six months after all other elections.